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DRAFT CONTINGENCY press Q/A

Q. Is the Department doing anything about the Rwandan embassy's solicitation of funds for the Rwandan army?

A. THE DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT THE RWANDAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS CIRCULATED A LETTER INVITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO AN EMBASSY BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES.

IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION, INCLUDING THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON RWANDA AND ALLEGATIONS THAT THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ATROCITIES AND VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, THE DEPARTMENT STRONGLY CONDEEMS THIS ACTION. WE HAVE TOLD THE RWANDAN AMBASSADOR THAT THE EMBASSY MUST CEASE THIS ACTIVITY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L. DARIS
DATE/CASE ID: 31 JAN 2002 199903054

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